ITEC812

Special Topic in Information Technology

S2 Evening 2015

Dept of Computing

Contents

Disclaimer

Macquarie University has taken all reasonable measures to ensure the information in this publication is accurate and up-to-date. However, the information may change or become out-dated as a result of change in University policies, procedures or rules. The University reserves the right to make changes to any information in this publication without notice. Users of this publication are advised to check the website version of this publication [or the relevant faculty or department] before acting on any information in this publication.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Unit convenor
Associate Professor Manolya Kavakli-Thorne
manolya.kavakli@mq.edu.au
Contact via 029850 9572
E6A 372
by appointment

Credit points
4

Prerequisites
Admission to MInfoTech and permission of Executive Dean of Faculty and GPA of 3.0

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description
The content and availability of this unit will vary subject to developments in the information and communications technology discipline and the availability of particular (often industrially-based) expertise. Special topic units present novel material of current interest and provide a context within which students may engage with emerging technologies and trends as they arise.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Plan and self-manage projects demonstrating advanced project management skills with occasional input from academic staff assigned to supervise them.

Produce a lengthy technical document explaining systems analysis and design, as well as coding work completed - specifically for individuals who may have no technical understanding of the topic.

Present a technical topic to experts and non-expects using appropriate software, tools and techniques available.

Discuss and debate questions posed, in the given topic area.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Due
Ethics assignment	10%	Week 4
Milestone report 1	20%	Week 5
Milestone report 2	20%	Week 10
Final report	40%	Week 12
Presentation	10%	Week 13

Ethics assignment

Due: **Week 4**
Weighting: **10%**

A report or essay - not more than 2,000 words in length covering an ethical aspect of IT.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Plan and self-manage projects demonstrating advanced project management skills with occasional input from academic staff assigned to supervise them.

Milestone report 1

Due: **Week 5**
Weighting: **20%**

A report due in week 5 that provides a detailed proposal related to the topic under review.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Plan and self-manage projects demonstrating advanced project management skills with occasional input from academic staff assigned to supervise them.
- Produce a lengthy technical document explaining systems analysis and design, as well as coding work completed - specifically for individuals who may have no technical understanding of the topic.

Milestone report 2

Due: **Week 10**

Weighting: **20%**

The second report will be due in week 10 highlighting 'research' work completed to date.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Plan and self-manage projects demonstrating advanced project management skills with occasional input from academic staff assigned to supervise them.
- Produce a lengthy technical document explaining systems analysis and design, as well as coding work completed - specifically for individuals who may have no technical understanding of the topic.

Final report

Due: **Week 12**
Weighting: **40%**

The final report will be due at the end of week 12; showing results from the research project.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Plan and self-manage projects demonstrating advanced project management skills with occasional input from academic staff assigned to supervise them.
- Produce a lengthy technical document explaining systems analysis and design, as well as coding work completed - specifically for individuals who may have no technical understanding of the topic.

Presentation

Due: **Week 13**
Weighting: **10%**

A presentation to the supervisor and other interested personnel in the outcome of the project.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Present a technical topic to experts and non-expects using appropriate software, tools and techniques available.
- Discuss and debate questions posed, in the given topic area.

Delivery and Resources

Resources (within reason), as provided by the Department of Computing for the student to undertake their project.

Unit Schedule

A weekly meeting with the academic supervisor.

A presentation in week 13.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central. Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

Academic Honesty Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/academic_honesty/policy.html

Assessment Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/assessment/policy.html

Grading Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grading/policy.html

Grade Appeal Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/gradeappeal/policy.html

Grievance Management Policy http://mq.edu.au/policy/docs/grievance_management/policy.html

Disruption to Studies Policy http://www.mq.edu.au/policy/docs/disruption_studies/policy.html *The Disruption to Studies Policy is effective from March 3 2014 and replaces the Special Consideration Policy.*

In addition, a number of other policies can be found in the Learning and Teaching Category of Policy Central.

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/support/student_conduct/

Results

Results shown in *iLearn*, or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au.

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit http://students.mq.edu.au/support/

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Workshops

- StudyWise

- Academic Integrity Module for Students

- Ask a Learning Adviser

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://informatics.mq.edu.au/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Plan and self-manage projects demonstrating advanced project management skills with occasional input from academic staff assigned to supervise them.

- Present a technical topic to experts and non-expects using appropriate software, tools and techniques available.

- Discuss and debate questions posed, in the given topic area.

Assessment tasks

- Milestone report 1

- Milestone report 2

- Final report

- Presentation

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Plan and self-manage projects demonstrating advanced project management skills with occasional input from academic staff assigned to supervise them.

- Produce a lengthy technical document explaining systems analysis and design, as well as coding work completed - specifically for individuals who may have no technical understanding of the topic.

- Present a technical topic to experts and non-expects using appropriate software, tools and techniques available.

- Discuss and debate questions posed, in the given topic area.

Assessment tasks

- Milestone report 1
- Milestone report 2
- Final report
- Presentation

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Plan and self-manage projects demonstrating advanced project management skills with occasional input from academic staff assigned to supervise them.

- Produce a lengthy technical document explaining systems analysis and design, as well as coding work completed - specifically for individuals who may have no technical understanding of the topic.

- Discuss and debate questions posed, in the given topic area.

Assessment tasks

- Milestone report 1
- Milestone report 2
- Final report
- Presentation

PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Plan and self-manage projects demonstrating advanced project management skills with occasional input from academic staff assigned to supervise them.
- Produce a lengthy technical document explaining systems analysis and design, as well as coding work completed - specifically for individuals who may have no technical understanding of the topic.

Assessment tasks

- Milestone report 1
- Milestone report 2
- Final report

PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Plan and self-manage projects demonstrating advanced project management skills with occasional input from academic staff assigned to supervise them.
- Produce a lengthy technical document explaining systems analysis and design, as well as coding work completed - specifically for individuals who may have no technical understanding of the topic.

- Present a technical topic to experts and non-expects using appropriate software, tools and techniques available.
- Discuss and debate questions posed, in the given topic area.

Assessment tasks

- Ethics assignment
- Milestone report 1
- Milestone report 2
- Final report
- Presentation

PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues

This graduate capability is supported by:

Assessment task

- Ethics assignment

Standards

Grade	LO 1	LO 2	LO 3	LO 4
	Plan and self-manage projects demosntrating advanced project management abilities with occasional input from academic staff assigned to supervise them	**Produce a lengthy technical document explaining systems analysis and design, as well as coding work completed - specifically for individuals who may have no technical understanding of the topic.**	**Present a technical topic area to experts and non-expects using appropriate software, tools and techniques available**	**Discuss and debate questions posed, in the given topic area**
HD	The student will be effectively self-managing – asking the supervisor for minimal guidance only.	The report is very well written, in a scholarly style, having drawn extensively upon the literature. The report will be understandable by expert and non-expert alike.	The student is very confident in their speech and manner of presentation without necessarily being arrogant. The student clearly knows the subject material very well, interacts with the audience and gets the message across.	The student will have eye contact with the questioner, will involve the wider audience in the answering of the question, and provide an excellent answer -understandable to most people in the room.

D	The student will generally manage themselves but guidance will occasionally be necessary for fear of the project tracking incorrectly.	The report is well structured, but expression may occasionally be clumsy or literature drawn upon may have been more extensive.	The student may occasionally appear nervous, but the presentation is professional, well delivered and understandable by the audience.	The question will be answered correctly, but perhaps only the questioner and speaker are involved in a private conversation.
CR	The student requires fairly constant guidance from the supervisor.	The report is solid, literature is referred to, but the report lacks the sort of polish that would make turning the report in to a conference paper quite an effort.	The presentation presents the material, the slides will be good, but the talk may not be that smooth or may appear dry.	The question will be answered mostly correctly, but there may be a slight flaw. The audience may be slightly disengaged with the response given.
P	The student only progresses with input from the supervisor. Progress is made, but typically driven by the supervisor.	The report explains the work conducted but there is relatively little recourse to the literature, and the writing style and grammar may contain numerous problems or errors.	The talk will be quite boring. The material will be covered, tools will be used in aiding the presentation but there is little audience interaction.	The student only just addresses the questions. There may be some incorrect answers given, or answers presented to different questions.

The student is likely to be relatively nervous. |